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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has multiple aspects. In particular, in one aspect, the present invention is directed to a unit dose composition comprising 0.2 µg/kg to 48 µg/kg of an FGF-2 of SEQ ID NO: 2, or an angiogenically active fragment or mutein thereof in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In another aspect, the present invention is directed to a method for treating a human patient for coronary artery disease, comprising administering into one or more coronary vessels or a peripheral vein of a human patient in need of treatment for coronary artery disease a safe and angiogenically effective dose of a recombinant FGF-2, or an angiogenically active fragment or mutein thereof. The single unit dose composition of the present invention provides an angiogenic effect in a human CAD patient that lasts six months before re-treatment is required. In another aspect, the present invention is directed to a method of administration which optimizes patient's safety. In this embodiment, fluids, heparin and/or rate of infusion all play a role. In another aspect, the present invention is directed to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of FGF-2, alone or in combination with heparin, in a therapeutically effective carrier. The magnitude and duration of benefit were unexpected; in addition benefit with the IV route was unexpected.

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